

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for managing a supply chain utilizing a network, comprising:
  - 2 a) receiving data from a plurality of outlets of a supply chain utilizing a network, the
  - 3 data relating to the sale of products by the outlets;
  - 4 b) generating an electronic order form based on the data for ordering products from a
  - 5 distributor of the supply chain; and
  - 6 c) providing access to the data utilizing a network-based interface equipped to
  - 7 handle secure sockets layer (SSL) protocol.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the access is provided only after verification of a
- 2 password and a user name.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the network-based interface is capable of timing
- 2 out after a predetermined amount of time.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the data and electronic order form is encrypted.
- 1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the network includes the Internet.
- 1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the outlets, the distributor, and a supplier each
- 2 are provided access to the network-based interface.
- 1 7. A system for managing a supply chain utilizing a network, comprising:
  - 2 a) logic for receiving data from a plurality of outlets of a supply chain utilizing a
  - 3 network, the data relating to the sale of products by the outlets;
  - 4 b) logic for generating an electronic order form based on the data for ordering
  - 5 products from a distributor of the supply chain; and

6       c) logic for providing access to the data utilizing a network-based interface equipped  
7                   to handle secure sockets layer (SSL) protocol.

1       8. The system of claim 7, wherein the access is provided only after verification of a  
2                   password and a user name.

1       9. The system of claim 7, wherein the network-based interface is capable of timing  
2                   out after a predetermined amount of time.

1       10. The system of claim 7, wherein the data and electronic order form is encrypted.

1       11. The system of claim 7, wherein the network includes the Internet.

1       12. The system of claim 7, wherein the outlets, the distributor, and a supplier each are  
2                   provided access to the network-based interface.

1       13. A computer program product for managing a supply chain utilizing a network,  
2                   comprising:  
3        a) computer code for receiving data from a plurality of outlets of a supply chain  
4                   utilizing a network, the data relating to the sale of products by the outlets;  
5        b) computer code for generating an electronic order form based on the data for  
6                   ordering products from a distributor of the supply chain; and  
7        c) computer code for providing access to the data utilizing a network-based interface  
8                   equipped to handle secure sockets layer (SSL) protocol.

1       14. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the access is provided only  
2                   after verification of a password and a user name.

1       15. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the network-based interface  
2                   is capable of timing out after a predetermined amount of time.

1    16. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the data and electronic order  
2       form is encrypted.

1    17. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the network includes the  
2       Internet.

1    18. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the outlets, the distributor,  
2       and a supplier each are provided access to the network-based interface.